Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Saturday 17 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Sunday 18 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Friday 16 Dec 2022 at 11:21

Confidence: High confidence in the change in weather type after further wintery showers on Saturday to a return to milder conditions along with wet and windy conditions on the fells. Lower confidence in the timing of the ingress of milder air on Sunday and precipitation type during the day.

Headline for Saturday 17 Dec 2022: Occasional wintery showers turning more to sleet later in the day, a few bright spells too, fresh or strong southwesterly winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 17 Dec 2022

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m

Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Light snow showers (night)	Sleet showers (night)	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sleet showers	Sleet showers	Sleet showers
Precipitation probability							
00%	40%	40%	30%	30%	40%	40%	40%

Forecast for Saturday 17 Dec 2022

Weather: Occasional wintery showers will affect the Lake District overnight, especially for the southern Fells. Mist and fog patches are also expected widely. The showers will become more isolated and lighter during the morning and the snow level will gradually rise on Saturday. Showers of snow above 400m in the morning but above 800m by late afternoon. A few brighter spells in the middle of the day but further showers later in the afternoon and evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40% improving to 60% by afternoon. More clear tops around northern fells.

Low cloud and visibility: Scattered or broken cloud layers above 500m around the southern Fells for most of the morning, more scattered above 600m in the north, lifting for a time in the afternoon with just patches in the north around 700m but filling in again later. Visibility falling moderate or poor in wintery showers at time but out with showers good visibility.

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Forecast for Saturday 17 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	30/38 SW	28/34 SW	23/29 SW	17/22 SW	20/26 SW	18/23 SW	18/23 S	20/26 S	24/32 S
600	23/33 SW	22/30 SW	18/27 SW	13/19 SW	15/21 SW	13/20 SW	13/19 S	17/24 S	20/29 S
300	8/25 SW	8/24 SW	7/20 SW	5/17 SW	7/18 SW	5/16 SW	4/15 S	5/17 S	8/22 S
Valley	9/25 SW	8/22 W	8/20 W	5/14 W	6/16 SW	6/15 SW	5/14 SW	6/16 S	11/23 S

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-9	-2/-9	-2/-9	-2/-8	-2/-9	-2/-8	-1/-9
600	0/-7	0/-7	0/-6	-0/-6	0/-5	0/-5	-0/-6	0/-6	0/-6
300	2/-1	2/-1	2/-1	2/-0	3/-0	2/0	1/-1	2/-1	2/-2
Valley	4/1	4/1	4/1	3/1	5/2	4/2	4/2	4/1	4/1
Freezing Level*	700m	700m	700m	600m	700m	700m	800m	800m	900m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Freezing level lifting throughout the day with showers turning more to sleet or even rain at low levels. Still a significant windchill at height on the fells and good snow layer underfoot, although some melting will occur at lower levels.

Forecast for Sunday 18 Dec 2022

Weather: Cloudy with a few outbreaks of sleet and snow in the morning, alongside strong winds there may be some blizzards on higher fell tops. Turning milder with further sleet and rain spreading across the Lake District from the west during the afternoon. Heavier outbreaks at times. Rain will ease later but some patchy drizzle may last into the evening.

Maximum wind: Southerly 20-25mph with gusts 40-45mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 70% falling to 40%, Increasing low cloud with outbreaks of rain/sleet and snow.

Low cloud and visibility: Scattered or broken layers of cloud above 600m in the morning, falling to 400m in the afternoon. Moderate visibility in the morning but turning very poor at times in strong winds and sleet and snow showers, blizzard conditions at times.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 2 rising to 8 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 3 rising to Plus 1 Celsius.
Freezing level: 700m falling to 200m in the morning, then rising above all summits in the afternoon.

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Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 16 December2022 Location: High Stile summit at 11:59

Full report: A cold and clear night gave way to a cloudy and milder morning with patchy light rain in places, which was falling as snow above the freezing level. A slow thaw at low elevations has made many of the paths extremely slippery. Walking poles and/or microspikes are recommended! The general lack of precipitation since the start of the cold spell means that snow cover is quite lean, with rime ice and hoar frost being more abundant than snow. Distribution is very marked with many shady north and east-facing slope aspects remaining white, whereas sunny south-facing slopes are relatively bare with little or no snow or ice present. Large areas of water ice are also present on and around paths adjacent to drainage lines, particularly at low and mid-elevations and care should be taken around these areas. Many upland tarns are frozen over, however, the ice may not be sufficiently thick to hold body weight and with today's higher freezing level, many may well be thawing. The summit windchill (feels-like) temperature in light to moderate winds today was around -9ºC making it feel very cold if stood still even for short periods of time.

Temperature: minus 1.7 C, Maximum wind speed 20.3mph, Wind chill: minus 9.0 C, Average wind speed: 16.0 mph

Issued at: 1121 on Fri 16 Dec 2022

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